



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 1, 2003

MEDIA CONTACT:

Donna Skinner, Hazardous Materials Program Manager
(858) 492-5006

Nicole Hall, Supervising Public Information Officer
(858) 492-5009 / Cell: (858) 518-7774

**CITY HOSTS AUTO PRODUCT RECYCLING EVENT TO COLLECT USED
MOTOR OIL, ANTIFREEZE, OIL FILTERS AND AUTO BATTERIES**

May 17 Event to be Held at Mira Mesa High School

SAN DIEGO, CA — The City of San Diego expects to collect 20,000 pounds of auto waste at an Auto Product Recycling Event Saturday, May 17, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Mira Mesa High School, located at 10510 Reagan Road, 92126. Sponsored by the City's Environmental Services Department and the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB), this is a free event to City residents.

Hazardous waste specialists will collect used or leftover motor oil, antifreeze, oil filters and auto batteries. Business and other commercial waste will not be accepted. This event is only for "home mechanics." Residents should transport no more than 10 gallons of waste, secured in closed containers and placed inside a box that can be left behind. To ensure safety, keep the waste in the trunk or away from drivers and passengers.

"Improper disposal of auto products such as pouring motor oil or antifreeze on the ground, down storm drains, or tossing even a sealed container of an auto product can contaminate and pollute the soil, groundwater and streams and waterways that empty into our beaches and the coastline," said Richard L. Hays, director, City of San Diego Environmental Services Department. "By recycling used antifreeze and motor oil, including oil from the oil filter, you help reduce pollution, conserve natural resources and create new products. It's a simple way San Diegans can help the environment."

The metal in oil filters is recycled into reinforcing bar for construction use and the lead and acid in auto batteries are converted into other products.

- More -

ADD PAGE 2 – *City of San Diego Auto Product Recycling Event*

The City hosts eight annual Auto Product Recycling Events citywide. Last year, these eight events drew participants from more than 2,000 area homes and collected more than 127,000 pounds of used auto products.

City Auto Product Recycling Events are made possible by the annual receipt of a Used Oil Recycling Block Grant from the CIWMB, which funds the collection of motor oil and oil filters. For information on private businesses that accept used oil and filters, or disposal of other household hazardous waste, call Environmental Services at (858) 694-7000.

This event is open to all San Diego residents and proof of residency within San Diego city boundaries is required.

###